It's Sunday morning, it's 9:45 and you are listening to WUJC , 88.7 FM and that can mean only one thing. It's time once again for the English language portion of the Lithuanian Voice Radio Program. Good morning on this the 5th day of March, 1995. A special welcome to the Knights of Lithuania and their families.

SUTARAS – VASILIŠKIS POLKA

**As a service to our English speaking listeners, we present this summary of the week's news stories from Lithuania as well as items of local interest, read in English. Our news comes to us courtesy of the Open Media Research Institute by way of the Internet. Email services are graciously provided by John Carroll University Computer Network Services.**

**LITHUANIAN AND RUSSIAN PRIME MINISTERS MEET.** Lithuanian Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius, during an official visit to Moscow on 24 February, held talks with his Russian counterpart Viktor Chernomyrdin. Slezevicius called the discussions "constructive, businesslike, and benevolent" and said they should give new impetus to bilateral relations. Agreements were signed on cooperation in customs and on border check-points. The two premiers also discussed the return of Lithuania's embassies in Paris and Rome and of Lithuanian deposits in Russia's Vneshekonombank, but no timetable was established. Chernomyrdin said Russia could not stop Lithuania becoming a member of NATO but hoped it would not join at a rapid pace. -- Saulius Girnius, OMRI, Inc.

**LITHUANIAN PRESIDENT IN ISRAEL.** Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas, along with an entouage of 34 arrived in Jerusalem for an official three-day visit on 28 February. At a welcoming ceremony hosted by President Ezer Weizman, Brazauskas said he was ashamed that some of his countrymen murdered Jews during World War II and pledged to prosecute war criminals. He was confronted outside the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial by dozens of protesters carrying signs reading: "No rehabilitation for Lithuanian Nazi murderers." Brazauskas also met with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. Brazauskas addressed the Israeli Knesset (parliament) on 1 March, apologizing again to the Jewish nation for participation of Lithuanians in World War II crimes. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Brazauskas's visit was "the first sign promising a spring in our relations." Brazauskas also visited Bethlehem and met with Israeli businessmen in Tel Aviv. Lithuanian Foreign Minister Povilas Gylys signed an agreement on visa-free entry for holders of diplomatic passports, and Health Minister Antanas Vinkus concluded an accord on cooperation in health care. -- Saulius Girnius, OMRI, Inc.